00636

1972/03/07

EXDIS EXDIS EXDIS EXDIS

Department of State TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~ 137

FILE COPY

PAGE 01 PHNOM 01339 071618Z

46
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 /026 W

R 071100Z MAR 72
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6679
SECDEF

~~S E C R E T~~ PHNOM PENH 1339

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT

DEPARTMENT PASS DIA, JCS, CINCPAC, COMUSMACV, CINCUSARPAC, CINCPACFLT, CINCPACAF, CHMEDTC SAIGON

FROM AMBASSADOR

SUBJ: FANK HEAD-COUNT

REF: USDAO 0171 MAR 72 (040530Z MAR 72)

1. I HAVE JUST READ SECTION 5 C OF THIS REPORT WHICH DEALS IN HARD-HITTING FASHION WITH THE NUMEROUS PROBLEMS THE FANK CONTINUES TO FACE IN ACCOMPLISHING HEAD-COUNTS OF MILITARY UNITS.

2. THIS IS AN AREA OF SERIOUS DEFICIENIV WHICH IS RECEIVING OUR CONTINUING ATTENTION. NOT ONLY HAVE WE REPEATEDLY DISCUSSED IT WITH GENERALS SAK SUTSAKHAN AND PEAU LIM VAR, BUT I HAVE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS STRESSED TO LON NOL AND DIRIK MATAK THE IMPORTANCE OF VERIFYING UNIT STRENGTHS SO THAT UNITS CAN BE INTELLIGENTLY DEPLOYED IN COMBAT, PAYROLL PADDING CAN BE ELIMINATED, AND A TRUE FORCE LEVEL CAN BE DETERMINED TO FACILITATE PLANNING. WE PLAN TO RENEW THESE REPRESENTATIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT FANK GENERAL HEADQUARTERS IS AWARE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF A CENSUS AND THAT IT IS PREPARED TO DO ITS BEST TO OBTAIN ONE. BGEN CLELAND INFORMS ME THAT THE MEDTC IS ASSISTING FANK IN PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION WITHIN THE LIMITS

ANDERSON
HOLDRIDGE
HORMATS
JESSUP
KENNEDY
LEHMAN
NACHMANOFF
NEGROPONTE
ODEEN
RONDON
SAUNDERS
SONNENFELDT
WALSH
WRIGHT

13005

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5
STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES
BY GG, NARA, DATE 3/2/2006

Photocopy from Gerald R. Ford Library
Declassified

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

~~SECRET~~

EXDIS EXDIS EXDIS

Department of State TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

OF OUR CHARTER AND THE MANNING LEVELS AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AVAILABLE IN MEDT. A CINCPAC TEAM HAS ARRIVED TO MAKE A PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF THE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS OF FANK, WHICH MAY RESULT IN A MORE DETAILED STUDY IN DEPTH AND PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS FOR GREATER EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS. WE WILL CLOSELY MONITOR THIS EFFORT.

4. FINALLY, I THINK IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED THAT THE PROJECT OF DETERMINING UNIT STRENGTHS IS BOTH OPERATIONALLY AND POLITICALLY COMPLEX AND THAT FANK WILL NEVER REACH STANDARDS MATCHING OUR OWN. I NEVERTHELESS QUESTION THE ACCURACY OF THE COMMENTS IN THE REFERENCE REPORT WHICH REFER TO THE HEAD-COUNT AS LIKELY TO PETER OUT AND AS "DOOMED TO FAILURE." THESE ARE EXTREME STATEMENTS WHICH FAIL TO RECOGNIZE THAT CERTAIN PROGRESS HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE, THAT FANK CAN BENEFIT FROM THE EFFORTS OF THE MANPOWER SURVEY TEAM, AND THAT WE EXPECT GRADUAL OVER-ALL IMPROVEMENT IN FANK PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT.

5. IN PARTICULAR, I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT THIS COMPLEX AND DELICATE PROBLEM IS OF MAJOR CONCERN TO US AND WILL RECEIVE OUR MAXIMUM EFFORT.
SWANK

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED JCS, ETC.

Declassified
Photocopy from Gerald R. Ford Library

GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

~~SECRET~~